

TAPE FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 6

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

IN RECENT WEEKS, WE HAVE HEARD MUCH ABOUT TALK ABOUT OUR SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM. WHILE I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS SYSTEM AND HAVE CONSISTENTLY FOUGHT AGAINST ANY TAMPERING WITH BENEFITS, I DO FEEL THAT THERE IS ONE ADJUSTMENT WHICH SHOULD BE MADE.

IN 1977, CONGRESS REVISED THE 1972 FORMULA TO COMPUTE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS. AS A RESULT INDIVIDUALS BORN MONTHS, WEEKS, EVEN DAYS APART ARE RECEIVING WIDELY DIFFERENT BENEFITS. THIS DISPARITY, IN THE FORM OF THE NOTCH YEAR, HAS WEAKENED THE EFFECT OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR SOME RECIPIENTS.

IN ORDER TO ALLEVIATE THIS NOTCH YEAR PROBLEM, I AM PUSHING LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS THE NOTCH BY GRADUALLY PHASING-IN THE 1972 PLAN WITH THE ONE ADOPTED IN 1977. I HOPE THAT THIS MESH OF THE TWO FORMULAS WILL WORK TO MAKE THE DISPARITY ON THE NOTCH YEAR DISAPPEAR FOREVER. WE MUST MAKE OUR SYSTEM WORK FAIRLY AND EQUITABLY FOR ALL,

THIS IS YOUR CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.